N O T I C E

Effective 1 April, the Iran and South Asia sections of the FBIS Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT will be incorporated into a new South Asia DAILY REPORT. The Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT will be renamed Middle East & Africa and will include material on Sub-Saharan Africa effective the same date.

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FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PLO SPOKESMAN CALLS ON ARAB STATES TO INTENSIFY EFFORTS

JN301616 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1525 GMT 30 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 March--PLO Official Spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has called on the leaders of Arab states to intensify their efforts on the international level until complete recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, their right to self-determination and the establishment of their Palestinian state in their homeland, Palestine, is achieved.

Abu Mayzar, who is accompanying PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during his visit to the UAE, added that the Palestinian question has entered a new phase in world public opinion for being a just cause. This phase is characterized by specific and clear support of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and the PLO.

In a statement upon arrival in Abu Dhabi today, Abu Mayzar welcomed the French initiative declared by French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing during his visit to the region. Abu Mayzar stressed the need for developing this initiative to harmonize it with what has been confirmed by international legality in regard to the Palestinian national rights.

In his statement, Abu Mayzar touched on 'Arafat's visit to India. He said that this visit acquires a special importance in time, venue and content. He added that the results of the visit will undoubtedly have positive repercussions on developing the relations between India and the Arab world.

The PLO official spokesman explained that the world has begun to realize that the Camp David agreements are not those of peace but a conspiracy against peace and the real interests of the Arab nation, including those of our true Arab people in Egypt.

Abu Mayzar reiterated that the Camp David conspiracy is a new call for war and that it will make the situation more explosive in the region. He added that the Palestinian people's struggle in the occupied homeland and the failure of the Camp David partners to find any Palestinian party that would talk with them or respond to their plans have made those who believed in the possibility of peddling these plans realize the falsity of their expectations.

FATAH'S AL-HASAN: PLO WELCOMES CONFEDERATION WITH JORDAN

JN291207 Doha QNA in Arabic 1145 GMT 29 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Riyadh, 29 March--Fatah Central Committee Member Khalid al-Hasan has stated that the PLO welcomes UN supervision of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip during the transition period that will follow the Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

In a statement to the Saudi newspaper AL-MADINAH AL-MUNAWWARAH today, Khalid al-Hasan added that during Palestinian-Jordanian meetings held 2 weeks ago, the PLO informed His Majesty King Husayn that a federal union with Jordan is the acceptable and preferred formula for relations between Jordan and the Palestinian state, should such a state be established, and that the basis for this relationship must be laid down after approval by the Jordanian and Palestinian parliaments.

Khalid al-Hasan added that such a Palestinian state can co-exist with Israel despite the PLO's adoption of a secular state formula.

Khalid al-Hasan pointed to Saudi-PLO relations and said that Saudi Arabia leads the list of countries that support and assist the PLO and that support the Palestinian people's struggle to protect their legitimate rights.

Khalid al-Hasan is currently in London for talks with members of the British Parliament and Foreign Office officials and in order to explain the PLO's concept of a settlement in the area.

IRAQI PRESIDENT SPEAKS AT PAN-ARAB CONFERENCE

JN281936 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Mar 80 JN

[Text of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's 27 March speech to the Pan-Arab People's Conference in Baghdad--recorded]

[Excerpts] On behalf of your people in Iraq and in my own name, I greet you. Your struggle and objectives are parallel with (?our) objectives in the service of the Arab nation. [applause] This is a good opportunity to meet here and to search for better ways to serve the Arab nation.

It is the pan-Arab interest that dictated to us in Iraq to initiate the eight-point provisions of the national charter at this stage. We believe that the Arab nation needs this declaration not because of the current circumstances with its all realities and complexes alone, but it will need it as a working program for several years to come.

Actually, the circumstances of the Arab nation and the existing complexes in the Arab homeland and in the world were the bases for our belief that this declaration will serve the Arab nation.

Brothers, isn't it strange that despite the fact that the Arab nation is progressing, there are those in the Arab world who support foreigners with a subservient nature? Subservience has no degrees. [applause] There is a degree in relationships. There is also a degree in friendship, but there is no degree in subservience. He who accepts subservience to this or that foreigner will accept subservience to all foreigners.

This phenomena existed at the beginning of the stage of advance of the Arab nation. [words indistinct]. I must tell you again that there are no degrees in subservience. We believe that any regime or movement that accepts subservience to this or that foreigner [sentence incomplete]. I do differentiate between a friendship and relationship. [words indistinct] I cannot find a difference between this image and that of old colonialism. Perhaps these concepts have made some brothers think that this charter is directed against this side or that. We would have said so with honor and without fear should we believe this. However, we never acted nor will act in secret. [applause]

There are two countries of influence in the world today. One of these powers is the United States and the other is the Soviet Union. These are facts in international policy. When we say this we do not mean to harm this or that side but this is the truth. The truth as it is and not as we wish.

As you all know, we have no relations with the United States. The relations have been ruptured. We consider it an enemy of the Arab nation and of Iraq [applause] and we have been acting accordingly for 12 years. [applause] We have never shed tears nor begged the United States to send to us representatives as the others do. On the contrary, [words indistinct]. We must say that for 5 years the United States has tried two to ten times every year and with all means to restore our diplomatic relations with it, but we refuse. [applause]

We do not do so because we fear anyone but out of our love for the Arab people and out of our faith in our principles, not our own principles but those of all the Arabs: The principles that we should be noble and free in our homeland and that we should refuse and fight those who try to intimidate us, those who try to usurp any part of our land and those who try to displace our people. This is what the United States is doing now. The United States is occupying our land because Israel is occupying Palestine with U.S. help. We will continue to view the United States as our enemy so long as this occupation continues. [applause]

The other power is the Soviet Union, which is looking for a parallel influence and it acts accordingly in the world. We have relations with this power. We call them friends thus far. We will continue to do so as long as we believe that these relations serve the Arab nation. However, it is a friendship in accordance with international calculations; in other words, a relationship that covers exchange of interests and interaction of strategies concerning this problem or that. Everyone of us believes that this relationship serves our people or [word indistinct]. It is not relations of subservience. Certainly, if we receive a report that the Soviet Union is present on any small part of our Arab land which involves subservience, we will react to it in the same way we do when we receive a report on the U.S. presence on any Arab land with a subservient nature. [applause]

This is no secret. This is not new for Iraq. [words indistinct]. In 1974, we were in India on a visit. Enroute we passed through the UAE. We met with a number of newsmen. Our relations were at an ebb with Saudi Arabia at that time. Radio campaigns were broadcast against them. We had no relationship and no exchange of envoys. At that time, I was asked about the relationship with the Soviet Union. I do recall that I answered the newsmen. The main cause for the deterioration of the relations with Saudi Arabia was its unsound stand on the three Arab islands which were occupied by the shah and because they did not adopt a clear stand rejecting the occupation, and also for not coordinating with Iraq to prevent this occupation. However, I said that if the Soviet Union, with whom we have relations of friendship, occupies any part of Saudi Arabia, the Iraqi Army would fight the Soviet Union before the Saudi Army did so. [applause] These words were spoken in 1974 and not today.

In order to know about the year 1974, I will tell you something about it. We said these words and they continue to define our policy and views regarding foreigners. This will never change so long as we are alive. We will fight the foreigner regardless of how we view this regime or that ruler [applause] and regardless of our relations with this foreigner or that. When matters reach the extent of subjugating the Arab people and usurping Arab land, there will be no difference between this or that foreigner. This is not [words indistinct]. Perhaps our voice was not strong enough to (?express) this policy. Perhaps our ways of expression were not capable of reaching a farther point.

We told our brothers, the Arab labor ministers, that this declaration is not for Iraq isolated from the Arab nation. All the declaration's provisions were formulated in a manner that we considered the Arab homeland's borders, not Iraq's borders, as our borders. [applause] Our views have always been how to serve the Arab people, not us alone but with the assistance of our Arab brothers, including the rulers, each from his position and in accordance with his condition. We therefore have chosen points that are indisputable. Only agents and subservients differ on these points. [applause]

The revolution is not an Iraqi revolution; we call it a revolution in Iraq. It is not the custodian of this country or that. It is not the alternative for any of your private affairs. Certainly, it is a revolution in your service. Certainly, it is a revolution regardless of what you want or do not want. Certainly, it is a revolution against the foreigner when he usurps the land and intimidates the Arab people.

In 1974, we fought against the shah's army for 12 months, from March 1974 until March 1975. I am not going to tell the details of the fighting although it is not our custom to cry or [word indistinct]. I will give you a figure on the number of martyrs. This reached well over 60,000 dead and wounded. This figure is put on record. I believe it is greater than other figures of battles we fought.

We said at the time that all our arms come from the Soviet Union. We did not say that the Soviet Union would get angry. When we explain this, we did not fear the anger of the Soviet Union. [applause]

We used to be happy to see the Iraqi people happy, pleased and satisfied. Our ambition exceeds this now. It has reached the extent that we will be happy to see our Arab people satisfied. [applause]

Our stand is the same as yours in the opposition in terms of our views of the Arab rulers and regimes. [applause] But should our role be an opposition like yours? Can we serve the Arab nation as you want? This is the kind of question which we pose to ourselves. We do not act in defense of the Iraqi revolution alone. We said this to our brothers, the Arab labor ministers.

One of our Arab brothers visited us in Baghdad and we got engaged with him in a long discussion. He asked how he could repulse the Americans without having a Soviet presence on his land, and how we could repulse the Soviets without having a U.S. presence on his land. We told him that we have repulsed the U.S. onslaught and will not accept a Soviet presence in the form of bases on our lands. We gave him an example. The shah was not fighting us by himself. He was fighting us on behalf of the United States, which was standing behind him. The United States admitted that it stood behind the shah.

Through their contacts, they say: We have made a mistake, which we will not repeat. We were against you, but now we do not want to be against you. We want normal relations with you. Of course, some people who are always interested in talking about these matters say that Saddam Husayn met with Kissinger or Brzezinski somewhere on the Iraqi-Jordanian border. Why? If we want to meet with Brzezinski or Kissinger, we will not meet them on the border or in secret. We will meet with them in Baghdad, but we do not want to meet with either Brzezinski or Kissinger for the reasons we talked about.

We told this brother that we have fought a CENTO member state, behind which the United States was directly standing. We have not yelled or complained even at the United Nations. It did not occur to us that the one who fights those representing the United States must be a Soviet. This is because Iraqis are on Iraqi soil and the Arabs helped them when they were able. As friends, the Soviets have to offer weapons only and see how [words indistinct]. We have [words indistinct] although some kinds of ammunition have run out.

At that time late Algerian President Boumedienne made an initiative. He told us: You are coming to the OPEC conference in Algiers, so what do you say if you meet with Iran's shah and talk directly about your affairs? I met with late President Boumedienne's envoy and asked him if this was an Iranian initiative, but he denied that. I then asked him to tell President Boumedienne that the Iranians must understand that this initiative is not [word indistinct]. Nevertheless, if the Iranians wanted to meet with us in Algeria, we had no objection. We met in Algeria and not on the border. We met in Algeria in front of journalists, cameras and lights. Be sure that had we got enough ammunition, we would have continued fighting the shah up to today without meeting with him in Algeria or any other place. [applause] This is because he was an aggressor, and it is the aggressor who should search for a way to deal with his aggression.

Some brothers in the opposition movement of an Arab state blamed us and argued: You are granting aid to the ruler we are struggling against, and you are aiding him to the extent of support while his downfall is demanded. We told them that we did not grant aid to the ruler. We wanted the soonest possible downfall of this ruler's regime. [words indistinct] It was our right not only as rulers; we had also the dream of the masses and strugglers. We are still dreaming within this horizon and acting within it. [applause] We offer this aid out of our commitment to our word of honor at the Baghdad conference. [applause] We do so only to help prevent the excuses of some who want to (?impede) As-Sadat's steps or those whose circumstances in this regard facilitate their slide into this perilous pitfall. This is our [word indistinct]. We know that this regime returns some of our policies in the form of plotting against Iraqi [applause] Nevertheless, we accept this and tell them to plot undisturbed with all their potentials because it is not a regime, money mercenaries or treacherous technical formulas that can abolish revolutions. Rulers and regimes are overthrown only by the peoples when they revolt and reject and when they reach a state of separation between them and their rulers. [applause]

Some Arab rulers used the technical formulas and played with the cards to the extreme. Some of them fell and the rest will fall under all circumstances. [applause] Their downfall is not a matter of when Saddam Husayn will leave power. Saddam Husayn may rule for 1, 2, 5 or 10 years. This is no problem. The downfall will come in a state of separation between the ruler and people.

BAHRAIN

ALGERIAN PRESIDENT BENDJEDID ARRIVES 30 MAR

JN301512 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1455 GMT 30 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpts] Manama, 30 March--Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid arrived here from Qatar this evening on a 1-day visit to the state of Bahrain as part of his current tour of the Arab countries.

He was received by His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain; Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the prime minister; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, defense minister and heir apparent; and several high-ranking officials.

The official talks between the two leaders are scheduled to begin tonight and will deal with the relations between the two countries. The developments in the current Arab situation in particular and the international situation in general and issues of common interest.

Begin Talks

JN302006 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1825 GMT 30 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpt] Manama, 30 March--Official talks between Bahrain and Algeria began here this evening. His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid presided over the talks.

Ends Talks, Leaves for Kuwait

JN310914 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0800 GMT 31 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Manama, 31 March--The Bahraini-Algerian talks were resumed this morning in Manama, led by Bahraini ruler Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The talks were attended by members of the two delegations.

The discussion initiated last night was completed, the foremost topics discussed were the current Arab and world situations, requisites for the next stage in unified Arab action, confrontation of the Zionist designs and bilateral relations and means of strengthening them in all fields.

The Algerian president left Manama for Kuwait this morning for a visit within his current tour of the region.

President Bendjedid was seen off by the ruler of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, heir apparent and defense minister Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah and a number of Bahraini officialls.

KUWAIT

ALGERIAN PRESIDENT BENDJEDID ARRIVES 31 MARCH

LD311056 Kuwait KUNA in English 1009 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, March 31 (KUNA)--Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid arrived here Monday on a two-day state visit to the country on the last leg of tour in the Asian Arab countries.

He was welcomed at Kuwait airport by H.H. the Amir Sheikh Jabir al-Ahmad and senior government officials. The Algerian delegation accompanying Bendjedid includes coordinator of the National Liberation Front Mohamed Saleh Yehyaoui and the Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia.

Bendjedid has already visited Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the two Yemens, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain. This is Bendjedid's first visit abroad since he came to power earlier in 1979 succeeding late President Houari Boumedienne. Bendjedid said here Monday he would exchange points of view with H.H. the amir on bilateral relations of the two countries and current Arab issues.

Talking to newsmen after his arrival here earlier in the day, he said that the Arab nation is passing through a crucial stage which requires direct meetings and positive action to close the Arab ranks. The president added that his current tour in the Asian Arab countries aims of coordinating stands and cooperation among Arab countries "to confront conspiracies being hatched against the Palestianian cause." He extended his thanks to H.H. the amir and the people of Kuwait and said that his country would never forget their moral and material support given to the Algerian people during their war of independence.

BULGARIAN MINISTER ARRIVES ON 3-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT

LD291036 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov arrived at noon today in Kuwait on a 3-day official visit. He was welcomed on arrival by Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, the deputy chairman of the council of ministers and foreign minister; Rashid 'Abd al-Aziz ar-Rashid, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry; and the Bulgarian ambassador to Kuwait.

The Bulgarian minister expressed pleasure at visiting Kuwait at the invitation of Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, and told KUNA that during the visit he would discuss with Kuwaiti officials the development of relations between the two countries, which he described as being continuously developed. He added that he would exchange with Kuwaiti senior officials views on international issues of mutual interest, including the Middle East and Afghan issues.

Holding of Talks

LD301745 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 30 March, KUNA--Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah today received Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Toshev Mladenov, who had also met with Heir Apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh S'ad al-'Abdallah as-Sabah. There was no information available as to what was discussed during these two meetings which were also attended by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Later, Mladenov had talks with Shaykh Sabah. Officials said the talks dealt with international developments, the Middle East crisis, the situation in Afghanistan, in addition to bilateral relations.

It was announced here today that another senior East European official, Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek is to visit Kuwait on 14 April. A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said after Mladenov's meeting with Shaykh Sabah that it was agreed to set up a bilateral committee to meet later today to lay down ideas and details of cooperation between the two countries in the economic, financial and tourism fields. The ministers are to meet tomorrow, and a press statement is expected at the end of the visit.

AS-SADAT OFFERS TO MEDIATE CHAD CONFLICT

AB281220 Paris AFP in English 1216 GMT 28 Mar 80 AB

[Text] Cairo, 25 Mar (AFP)--Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat said today he was ready to mediate between Chad's warring parties if all parties concerned call for us.

He told newsmen he was not worried at all at the role played by Libya in the events in Chad except that it was very damaging for peace and for the situation in the area and in Africa.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES TRANSPORT UNIONS' LEADERS

NC292034 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Mar 80 NC

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat has called on the labor leaderships not to allow anybody to tamper with the gains of the masses achieved by the July and May revolutions. He said there is a group that thinks it is a trustee over the masses and that there are some voices raised by those who imagine they can strike at the gains achieved by the July and May revolutions. This group has sallied forth from its holes, making use of the umbrella of freedom and democracy and the supremacy of law established by the May revolution. The president pointed out that this group wants to return to the prerevolution era and that it exploits the hardships of the masses and tries to outbid our freedom and democracy.

In a speech he delivered today during a meeting with the representatives of the road, sea and railway transport trade unions, the president added: When building, we must not make the same mistakes committed by the party leaders before the July revolution when Egypt was the property of a faction that ruled by the orders of the king and imperialism. This is why we carried out two revolutions in July 1952; a political revolution to save Egypt from imperialism, its lackeys and instruments and a social revolution to achieve social justice in Egypt.

The president went on: We must unite and join hands to build our country, particularly now that we have become the masters of our will and achieved political and economic independence.

REPORTAGE ON FORMER SHAH'S CONDITION, STATUS

Operation on Spleen

NC281616 Paris AFP in English 1600 GMT 28 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, March 28 (AFP)--The ex-shah of Iran's fifth day in Al-Ma'adi Hospital here was shrouded in silence as both Egyptian and U.S. doctors, ordered by Egypt's interim defense minister to say nothing, refused to give the slighest indication of his condition.

Doctors were due to meet today to decide when the former ruler's dangerously-swollen, cancerous spleen will be removed, but by mid-afternoon a health bulletin still had not been issued. Earlier in the week the operation was scheduled for tomorrow.

Journalists were forbidden to go near the hospital complex today and doctors were under orders by Egyptian Army Chief of Staff and Interim Defense Minister General Ahmad Badawi to keep silent. Observers said that the silence, which has gone on for more than 26 hours now, was not a good sign.

Yesterday's health bulletin said the ex-shah was slightly better but it focussed on a drop in his temperature which has been at fever-level since he arrived here Monday.

By the evening he had had a second blood transfusion and had been hooked up to equipment to treat his blood, affected by a lymphatic system cancer.

Complications set in yesterday evening and on instructions of Dr Michael DeBakey, the American heart specialist who will probably operate on the former ruler. A car was sent to fetch blood specialist Dr Ahmad 'Afifi.

Both U.S. and Egyptian doctors were due to meet today to set a date for the splenectomy. The operation has become crucial with the ex-shah's spleen now swollen 10 times its normal size and in danger of bursting.

Aide Zahedi Arrives

NC282215 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2206 GMT 28 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 28 March--General Ardeshir Zahedi, the brother-in-law of the former shah of Iran, arrived in Cairo this evening to join the shah's family and reside in Cairo.

Diplomatic Privileges

NC290730 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0700 GMT 29 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 March--In Sunday's edition, OCTOBER magazine quotes an Egyptian diplomatic source as saying that throughout his stay in Egypt, former Shah of Iran Mohammad Reza Pahlavi will enjoy all the diplomatic privileges of foreign heads of state.

The diplomatic source said that diplomatic practice provides that even former heads of state will continue to enjoy their personal privileges. He noted that the shah is a dear guest of Egypt, which, in President Anwar as-Sadat's view, is more important than any legal status.

Egyptian Ambassador to Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal has sent a cable to Cairo in which he affirmed that former U.S. Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger was among the foremost U.S. leaders to contact him by telephone conveying their greetings and admiration of President as-Sadat's noble and humanitarian stand and his moral courage in confronting the shah's problem. He said that the Egyptian Embassy in Washington received scores of telephone calls and thousands of cables conveying similar sentiments.

Permanent Residence

NC291257 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Mar 80 NC

[Text] The People's Assembly resumed its session this morning under the chairmanship of Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib. It discussed the interpellation submitted by Engineer Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Labor Party, and independent member Mumtaz Nassar, regarding the question of granting the former shah of Iran a permanent residence permit in Egypt.

All speakers, excluding the leader of the Labor Party and member Mumtaz Nassar, supported granting the former shah permanent residence in Egypt, on the basis of humanitarian principles, religious tolerance, nobility, true civilization and the spirit of Egypt's constitution; in gratitude to one who stood by Egypt's side during its ordeal; and in line with the resolution adopted by the previous People's Assembly in this respect.

The resolution was also supported by representatives of the Socialist Liberal Party.

Doctors' Press Conference

NC291600 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1512 GMT 29 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 29 March--The team of doctors treating the former shah of Iran at the armed forces hospital in Al-Ma'adi have confirmed that the shah's condition has improved after last night's surgery to remove his spleen. The doctors add that the shah is now under intensive care at the hospital, that his condition is normal and that he is expected to leave the intensive care unit within 2 days.

Dr Michael DeBakey, the American surgeon who carried out the operation on the shah with the assistance of a team of foreign and Egyptian doctors, has stated that the shah's health condition required the removal of the spleen following the spread of cancer which endangered his other organs.

At a press conference he held at the armed forces hospital in Al-Ma'adi today, Dr DeBakey said that he expects the shah to leave the hospital within 10 days when his health would completely improve.

Dr DeBakey further said that the operation began at 2000 and lasted 1 hour and 45 minutes He added that Farah Diba, the shah's sister and family were allowed to watch the operation via closed circuit television which showed the operation inside the operations room and that they were reassured about his condition following the operation by the doctors treating him.

In addition to Dr DeBakey, a team of doctors from Houston Hospital in Texas state including surgeon Gerald (Laury), anesthetist Dr (Sharon Asturi) and hematologist Dr David (Yon) and French specialist from Saint-Louis Hospital Dr Georges Flandrin participated in the operation which the former shah of Iran underwent.

The group of Egyptian doctors at the armed forces hospital in Al-Ma'adi also participated in the operation. They are Brig Gen Doctor Muhammad Kamil, the chief of the blood vessels surgery section; Brig Gen Ahmad Fu'ad Nur, the chief of the tumors surgery section; Brig Gen Doctor Ahmad Lutfi Mubarak, the chief of the therapeutic radiation section and Brig Gen Dr Amin 'Afifi, the chief of the blood diseases section.

The director of Al-Ma'adi Hospital Maj Gen Doctor Sabri Isma'il, senior surgeon Maj Gen Doctor 'Abd al-Majid Lutfi, chief of the internal medicine section Maj Gen Doctor Zakariya al-Baz and chief of the anesthetic section Maj Gen Doctor Rushdi Diwan took part in examining the shah and preparing him for the operation.

Director of Al-Ma'adi Hospital Maj Gen Doctor Sabri Isma'il opened the press conference, which was attended by 13 American, Egyptian and French doctors, by introducing the guest doctors to the foreign journalists and by thanking them for their cooperation with the team of Egyptian doctors.

Dr DeBakey then spoke. He thanked the team of Egyptian doctors who participated with him in performing the operation on the former shah of Iran. He praised their efficiency and skill in preparing the shah before, during and after the operation. He said: We worked together as one team. He added that the shah's health improved a lot after the operation and that there were no side effects from the operation. He went on: In cooperation with my colleagues, the Egyptian doctors, it was possible to perform the operation successfully. He expressed his belief that the former shah will not stay in the hospital more than 10 days.

Dr DeBakey praised the armed forces hospital for its efficiency and for providing advanced medical equipment for the treatment of such cases. He pointed out that he had examined the former shah of Iran 10 weeks ago, that cancer first appeared in his neck and that these cancerous cells were removed in New York. He added that the removal of the spleen yesterday is considered a final stage to get rid of the cancerous tumors.

Answering reporters' questions, Dr DeBakey pointed out that the surgery which the former shah underwent required opening his chest vertically from beneath the chest to the pelvis. He added that the Egyptian doctors, who are known for their efficiency, could have performed such an operation. He expressed his belief that following the operation, the shah can lead a normal life.

The chief of the arterial surgery at Al-Ma'adi Hospital, Brig Gen Dr Muhammad Kamil, said that following the removal of the spleen, the shah's health is now much better than it was before the operation because the cancer in the spleen was destroying the red and white blood cells and blood layers [as-safa'ih ad-damawiyah .

Dr Muhammad Kamil said that after the operation, the team of doctors ascertained that the shah's body was free of cancerous cells and that the cardiograph taken today proved that the shah's health is good and his heart sound.

Dr Kamil pointed out that the Al-Ma'adi Hospital has a special apparatus for separating the blood layers similar to the apparatus which the foreign doctors brought with them. He added that the Egyptian doctors had very efficiently used this apparatus before the arrival of the team of foreign doctors. He added that surgery similar to that performed on the former shah had been performed on a young Egyptian man at Al-Ma'adi Hospital on Monday morning, the day the shah arrived in Egypt. The young man suffered from a strong inflation of the spleen, which was removed. The young man's condition now, he went on, is good.

'Very Satisfactory' Conditions

NC291340 Paris AFP in English 1336 GMT 29 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, March 29 (AFP)--Iran's former shah, Mohamed Reza Pahlavi, was in "very satisfactory" condition after last night's surgery to remove his spleen, Doctor Michael DeBakey said today.

Dr DeBakey, who operated with the help of a team of doctors who had accompanied him from the United States as well as by Egyptian specialists from Al-Ma'adi Military Hospital, said that the ex-shah should be able to leave the hospital in 10 days.

The doctor also said that the shah's vital organs were functioning normally, he had no fever and his blood corpuscle count was back to normal after having fallen to a critical level.

The shah regained consciousness a short time after the operation, according to Dr DeBakey, and thanked the surgeons who had performed it.

Dr Georges Flandrin, a blood specialist from Paris's Saint-Louis Hospital, said that the shah's blood was in perfect condition.

The patient was in the hospital's intensive care section today and was being fed intravenously. Dr DeBakey said that he will be able to eat regular food in a day or two.

The American surgeon said also that the shah's spleen, enlarged because of the lymphatic cancer from which he is suffering, was 10 times its normal size. Doctor DeBakey said that the shah should be able to live a normal, active life.

AFP: ONE KILLED, SEVERAL INJURED IN ANTISHAH DEMONSTRATION

NC301534 Paris AFP in English 1502 GMT 30 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, March 30 (AFP)--One person was killed and several others injured, six critically, in two days of clashes between police in the town of Asyut and Muslim students protesting the ex-shah of Iran's presence in Egypt, an Islamic group said today.

It was the first violent incident reported since the former Iranian ruler came here several days ago.

A statement by the academic Muslim brotherhoods said the violence occurred Friday and Saturday after anti-riot brigades threw tear-gas grenades at the demonstrators in Asyut, 600 km (360 miles) south of Cairo.

Sources in Asyut said police were trying to disperse a silent march organized by the Muslim group. The protest followed a two-hour meeting held in the city's Nasir Mosque during which students violently criticized the ex-shah, calling him "the executioner of Tehran." The same group organized a non-violent sit-in attended by about 500 students at Cairo University last Wednesday to protest his presence in the country.

Since the sit-in, security measures have been reinforced around Al-Ma'adi Hospital where the ex-shah had his spleen removed last Friday, an armored tank and anti-riot brigades guarded the building.

The academic Muslim brotherhood is repotedly highly influential on Egyptian campuses and close to leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood underground group.

INTERIOR MINISTER TO REPORT ON ASYUT DEMONSTRATIONS

NC302126 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 30 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il will deliver a statement before the People's Assembly tomorrow morning. The statement will deal first of all with the violations which took place in Asyut over the past 2 days. Secondly, it will deal with moves to guarantee national unity stemming from the policy of the National Democratic Party [NDP] Government to put the full facts connected with any subject before the people through their representatives in the People's Assembly. This is done so that these facts will be the best answer to plans and campaigns aimed at casting doubts and to incitement directed against Egypt in the present phase in an attempt to detract from the stability which Egypt is enjoying compared to all other states in the area.

GHALI: EGYPT TAKES STEPS TO PROTECT EMBASSIES ABROAD

NC291642 Paris AFP in English 1629 GMT 29 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, March 29 (AFP)--Egypt has taken necessary [words indistinct] to protect its embassies abroad from a possible attack inspired by Cairo's decision to offer exile to the ex-shah of Iran, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said today, but (?he said following the) meeting of the Egyptian Parliament that his government did not fear any such attack. The parliament today approved the asylum offered by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat to the deposed and ailing shah, who last night underwent surgery to remove a cancerous spleen. About 20 deputies from the opposition Socialist Labor Party voted against the gesture.

MUSA SABRI DETAILS BACKGROUND TO SHAH'S ARRIVAL IN CAIRO

LD291435 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 25 Mar 80 p 1 LD

[Musa Sabri article: "Full Story of the Shah's Arrival"]

[Excerpts] Arrangements for the arrival of the former shah of Iran in Cairo began last Friday when he realized that his life was on the brink. Indeed he estimated that a plot was being hatched to murder him under any pretext, even if that pretext was the need for the removal of the cancerous tumor in the spleen in one of Panama's hospitals. The American doctors attending the shah decided that the hospital lacked the necessary scientific equipment for such a serious operation while the Panamanian doctors and the Panamanian Government refused to allow the American doctors to carry out this operation on the shah, giving the excuse that the law prohibits foreign doctors from working in Panama, even if this involves operating on a patient whose life is threatened.

As AL-AKHBAR, subsequently quoted by the world press and radios, reported on Sunday, the shah received secret reports to the effect that certain quarters would put poison in his food which would not be discovered since it is known that he is seriously ill and might die any moment

The reports received by the shah said that U.S. intelligence might arrange to get rid of him with poison in order to put an end to the American hostage crisis. If the Iranians are demanding the extradition of the shah alive, there would no longer be a reason for such a demand if his life were to end. The reports received by the shah may not be true but he was ready to believe them because he is quite convinced that it was U.S. intelligence that conspired with senior Iranian Army officers who had been loyal to him and convinced them to abandon him. When the shah arrived in Aswan after leaving Iran in early January 1979 he reiterated that it was the United States that put the last nail in the coffin of his throne.

As the shah's condition worsened and the cancerous tumor in the spleen began threatening his life, American doctors went to Panama to examine his condition. They announced that there was an urgent need for a critical operation but the Panamanian doctors refused to allow the American doctors to carry out this operation. The United States, through Carter's envoy and adviser, proposed that the operation be carried out at a U.S. military base in Panama but the Panamanian Government turned down the proposal.

The shah felt that there was what seemed like a conspiracy against his life, especially on Monday, the day fixed for the Iranian Government to request the Panamanian Government to extradite the shah. The Iranian Government assigned two leading European lawyers to submit the request with the Panamanian Government's cooperation. An Iranian Government delegation had actually arrived in Panama. Yesterday, Monday, was the final legal date for submitting this request.

The shah faced a dual dilemma. He could not agree to undergo a serious operation by Panamanian doctors in a hospital lacking the equipment necessary for his condition. He was also afraid that an order to extradite him would be issued. What further aggravated his situation was the reports that there was a conspiracy to finish him off with a quick acting poison.

On Friday he decided to seek refuge in Egypt. A detailed report arrived in Cairo on Friday morning asking whether an Egyptian offer to receive him for treatment was still valid. Vice President Husni Mubarak received the report and he submitted it to President as-Sadat. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, who received a copy of the report, also contacted Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil in the evening and discussed the matter with him.

Egypt was as good as its word, for it will never close Egypt's door in the face of anybody seeking treatment here.

The shah received Egypt's decision with tears of gratitude, saying to those around him: Life is in God's hands.

Arrangements for the shah's departure from Panama and arrival in Cairo began immediately. A special wing was prepared at the Al-Ma'adi Hospital and all the necessary equipment and the operating theater were prepared.

Cairo did not wish to announce its decision, leaving this to the shah himself or to the U.S. Government, which was transmitting the exchanged messages. Cairo did not wish to announce its decision because it would not like to boast in a humanitarian situation as the matter concerned saving the life of a patient.

At 11 o'clock that [presumably Monday] night President Carter's national security adviser Brzezinski announced that the shah had left Panama on his way to Egypt in response to As-Sadat's invitation. Brzezinski said that the shah himself had decided to go to Cairo after intense consultations with his aides and U.S. representatives. He said that the matter was purely humanitarian and not political. The shah chose to go to Egypt because, as Brzezinski said, he will find comfort and rest on Egyptian territory. But what Brzezinski did not say was that the shah's family was convinced that his life was going to end in a matter of hours. They expressed this fear as they cried on Friday. It was only a matter of hours. Indeed the shah told his family in a state of total despair: If I am to die I would like to be buried in Egypt.

MINISTER OF STATE TO VISIT OMAN, INDIA, NEPAL

NC291606 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali left Cairo this afternoon at the start of a tour during which he will visit Oman, India and Nepal. Dr Ghali will hold talks with officials of the aforementioned countries dealing with international issues and relations between Egypt and each of these countries.

Dr Ghali will convey two messages from President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, one to the Indian prime minister and the other to the king of Nepal.

ITALIAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION OFFICIAL ARRIVES

JN301035 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 30 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Mar--The chairman of the Italian Atomic Energy Commission, Professor Colombo, arrived in Baghdad today on an official visit that will last several days.

The Italian official will hold talks with Iraqi Atomic Energy Organization officials on developing bilateral cooperation in peaceful utilization of atomic energy.

The professor is accompanied by a delegation that includes several Italian officials.

INDIAN CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES ON VISIT

JN292049 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Mar--Gen O.P. Malhotra, Indian chief of staff, arrived here tonight at the head of a delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq.

The Indian military official said that his visit comes within the framework of the relations of friendship between the two countries.

Received by Ramadan

JN301831 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 30 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Mar--Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met here tonight with Indian chief of staff, Gen O.P. Malhotra, who is now visiting Iraq.

During the meeting, Ramadan reiterated Iraq's desire to consolidate and develop relations with India and to support the nonalined countries.

General Malhotra praised Iraq's positive and leading role under President Saddam Husayn in strengthening the relations between the two countries in all fields.

The two sides also discussed the relations of friendship between Iraq and India.

Meeting With Defense Minister

JN301436 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT 30 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Mar--RCC member and defense minister staff, Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, received here today Indian chief of staff, Gen O.P. Malhotra, and his delegation. The two sides discussed cooperation between the two friendly countries.

The meeting was attended by the chief of staff.

YUGOSLAV DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIAL LEAVES 28 MAR

JN281558 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1545 GMT 28 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar--Col Gen Enver Cemalovic, Yugoslav deputy federal secretary for national defense [title as received] and assistant federal secretary for air and air defense, left Baghdad today at the end of a 4-day visit to Iraq.

The Yugoslav official expressed his pleasure at visiting Iraq and his satisfaction with his meetings with Iraqi officials. He added that his visit aimed at developing the relations between the two friendly countries. He expressed his admiration over Iraq's development and progress.

CZECHOSLOVAK METALLURGY MINISTER ARRIVES 28 MAR

JN281252 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar--Jaroslav Janik, Czechoslovak deputy minister of metallurgy and heavy engineering, arrived here today on a visit of several days. The Czechoslovak official will hold talks with Iraqi officials on the promotion of cooperation between the friendly countries. He will also acquaint himself with the course of progress in some projects being implemented by Czechoslovak establishments in Iraq.

GDR ENGINEERING MINISTER ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD 30 MAR

JN301734 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 30 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 30 March--Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and minister of general engineering, agricultural machinery and vehicle building, arrived here today to head his country's delegation to the meetings of the joint economic, scientific and technical cooperation committee scheduled to begin tomorrow.

The GDR official said that the joint committee is performing a task which is fruitful for both of the friendly peoples and which strengthens bilateral relations based on joint struggle against imperialism.

During its 4-day meetings, the committee will review existing bilateral cooperation and the projects which are being implemented in Iraq by GDR companies. The committee will work out a new program for cooperation in this year and a trade plan which will include the exchange of commodities between the two friendly countries.

PRESIDENT, DEFENSE MINISTER ADDRESS MILITARY UNITS

JN292047 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpts] Under the patronage of his excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the army and armed forces, one of our combat units carried out a military exercise with live ammunition. Various divisions of our land and air forces took part in this exercise in cooperation with units of the paratroopers. This exercise was also attended by Maj Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and armed forces and defense minister; comrade Rif'at al-Asad, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command member and commander of the defense units; and a number of high-ranking officers of the general command of the army and armed forces. His excellency the president and those accompanying him then went to the headquarters of the unit, where the president met with the fighters and delivered the following speech:

[Begin Al-Asad recording] [long applause] Sons, shame be on Israel, shame be on the United States; shame be on the lackey reactionaries; for these are our soldiers, this is our people; these are our masses cursing you night and day. [applause] Those who are cursed by the people must be cursed by God, and those who are cursed by God are destined to abide in hellfire. "And what will explain to thee what hellfire is?" [Koranic verse]

My sons the soldiers, noncommissioned officers, officers: Today, when I attended your military exercise, I saw a great example of your competence and skill. I also became acquainted with the great efforts you are exerting to further develop your combat ability.

Today I feel and live your zeal and anxiety exactly as I felt them before. I know your heroism and courage, which you showed and proved in the October War, the Golan Heights war, the Mount Hermon battles and in every mission assigned to you. [applause] Today, as I meet with you, I recall several glorious examples of your heroism. I recall a long record of memories about your performance on the battlefield. I recall your heroism. I recall the performance of our special units, the performance of the tank units, the performance of the infantry units, the performance of the artillery units, the heroism of our air force and our air defense units. I also recall the heroism of our naval force and our coastal defense units. I recall a bright and glorious memory of our armed forces' performance. With great ecstacy and pride, I recall these actions.

Israel and the United States considered your heroism, the heroism of our armed forces, as an unhappy surprise. Israel and the United States considered this surprise as a turning point in our country's march as well as in the march of the entire area. Israel and the United States, therefore, determined not to remain silent. They agreed not to allow this surprise to develop further or to continue. They did not want us to reap the fruition of this surprise. Hence, the U.S.-Israeli plots started and followed one another. These plots were masked by various faces and appeared in different political, military and economic forms. Yet all these plots failed. These plots failed; they were countered by your will and were faced by your faith in your homeland, your faith in your revolution, your faith in your party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. [applause]

These plots were faced by your will. Your will was stronger than any manuever. These plots were countered by your faith in the homeland, the revolution and the party, and your faith was mightier than any manuever. But the battle between us and Israel is not a transient one. The battle between us and the Zionist United States is also not transient, because it is a battle between right and wrong, between freedom and oppression, between liberation and occupation, between capitalism and socialism, between right and justice, on one side, and injustice.

Because they know this fact, because they realize that the battle is not transient, because they understand that the October War--this war during which our hopes for victory in our one battle, which has several faces, increased--has further increased the possibilities for our success; they thus did not waste any effort, chance or means that might help them impose their designs on us, on our people and on our nation. They have eventually found themselves forced to expose all their cards and even to push their reserve force into the battle. Thus, they resorted to the agent reactionaries and after having investigated them, they entrusted the agent reactionaries with the task of resisting the revolution. The reaction, this time as in every other time, was very sincere and honest in carrying out its overlords' instructions, completely ignoring the homeland's needs and requirements. However, it is known that there are no relations between the homeland and the reaction. The greedy, opportunist reaction is never with the homeland for, actually, it does not belong to the homeland. The reaction is with those who are capable of filling its stomach, even if this was at the expense of the struggle of the poor and the sweat or blood of the oppressed. The reactionaries are not with the homeland, not with the people. They are with those who fill their mouths. Who is capable of filling the reactionaries' mouths and stomachs in such a way? History, sons, tells us that it is colonialism which is capable of filling the reactionaries' stomachs. No one who belongs to this homeland, can satisfy and meet the reactionaries' greed.

Hence, we can see the link between all of them, for they stand on one ground and have the same interests. Therefore, when the United States, in accordance with its interests, and when Israel, in accordance with its interests, wanted to see Syria yield and join the Camp David parties, and when Syria in accordance with its own national and pan-Arab interests and its national aspirations, refused to join the Camp David course, they instigated the spiteful agent reaction to stab the homeland in the back. They instructed the spiteful agent reaction to stab the Syrian armed forces in the back. They did so because they Syrian forces should not carry out their sacred national and pan-Arab duties. According to them, the Syrian armed forces must not concentrate on Israel and must not continue to further increase their preparations and training for the aspired day. The reaction is instructed to keep us busy here in Syria and to deviate our attention from the enemy. The reaction is instructed to deviate the attention of Syria's leadership, Syria's army, Syria's workers, Syria's peasants and all the honest citizens in Syria.

What they want is for us to stop our thinking and work, to stop our political, economic and military construction because the United States sees that if it succeeds in preventing us from continuing this construction and preparation to face the enemy, as the United States and Israel think, then Syria will get weak, will yield and eventually collapse. They even dream that agent reaction may restore its traditional positions, which collapsed under the strike of our masses' revolutionary struggle, under the struggle of our soldiers, our workers and our peasants. The United States and Israel think, and the agent reaction believe, that this may happen and that the wheel of life may move backward against life's will and against the masses' will, against your will, against your aspirations, you strugglers, you soldiers, you people. [applause] They have unwillingly given us a push and more power. They have even shed more light on the revolution's path, against all their expectations. May God dishonor you reactionaries. [applause] Sons, the revolution is your revolution. It is also the revolution of the class to which you belong. [applause] Therefore, there will be no peace with the revolution's enemies; there will be no peace with the people's enemies; there will be no peace with the armed forces' enemies; there will be no peace with the enemies of the people's revolution. [applause] There will be no peace with our enemies; there will be no peace with our soldiers' enemies, no peace with the enemies of our workers and peasants; no peace with the enemies of the struggling people's revolution and their party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. [applause]

Sons, our march is long. It is the march of honor and pride; it is the march of the people and their aspirations; it is the march of the nation and its aspirations. It is a march fed by our continuous efforts, supported by everlasting determination and backed by our strong fists and proud souls. [applause] It is a march which is supported by God and the people. Thus, it can sweep away all difficulties. [applause]

Sons, may God bless you, for you are the closest to this land and, thus, the closest to heaven. He who is not close to the land is not close to heaven. [applause] Sons, my greetings and love to every single one of you, to every soldier, to every noncommissioned officer, to every officer. [applause] Greetings to all of you and God bless you. [long applause] [end recording]

Maj Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and armed forces and defense minister, delivered a speech before that. At the beginning he extended the general command's thanks and appreciation to the unit's commanders and soldiers who carried out the military exercise and for their good use of the sophisticated weapons and for the fighters' successful performance. He then reviewed the armed forces' heroism during the October War on the northern front. He underlined the great sacrifices and heroism of the bold, ideological army. He also pointed out the efforts carried out by imperialism to search for local agents to abort the October victories, imperialism found in As-Sadat and agents of the Muslim Brotherhood the goal of its persistent search in order to carry out its designs and colonialist plans. Imperialism then instigated them to commit crimes in the name of religion, while religion is completely innocent and does not allow such deeds. Imperialism's aim was to strike at our nation's unity, the people and the land.

Major General Talas also outlined the efforts which were exerted and are still being exerted in Lebanon by our steadfast Arab country to stop the flow of Arab blood and to counter all colonialist challenges.

At the conclusion, Major General Talas said: Our steadfast country under the leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, will continue to be an everlasting edifice for the Arab nation as well as its aspired hope. Our country is capable of countering the aggression and facing the imperialist onslaught, particularly after the recent incidents during which the Muslim Brotherhood tried to attain its overlords' goals. He vowed to President Hafiz al-Asad to continue the march of struggle until the achievement of our nation's goals in unity, liberation and socialism.

Comrade Rif'at al-Asad, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and commander of the defense units, also delivered a speech.

At the beginning of his speech, he welcomed his excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and then underlined the role of the modern, sophisticated weapons in achieving victory. He stressed that our armed forces, which fought the October War with great success and were superior to the enemy in the various battles, are also capable of countering the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat onslaught aimed against our country's steadfastness, hoping to eventually drag it into As-Sadat's capitulatory scheme.

Comrade Rif'at al-Asad reviewed the goals of the internal plot being carried out by the Muslim Brotherhood to serve its overlords' interests. He said that this plot is aimed against the masses' interests and national and pan-Arab goals. He stressed that these cliques do not belong to the Arab nation and that the people are capable of liquidating and exterminating them, regardless of the cliques' various methods and criminal sabotage and assassinations.

At the conclusion, Comrade Rif'at al-Asad vowed to the comrade commander in chief of the army and armed forces to continue the training and to further strengthen our steadfastness and readiness to achieve victory and liberation, regardless of the price and all sacrifices.

AL-KASM: OPPOSITION IS DIRECT AGENT OF U.S., ISRAEL

JN311049 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 29 Mar 80 pp 28, 29 JN

[Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm's interview with Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL correspondent Louis Faris in Damascus on 23 March]

[Text] "Most strict Muslims are against acts of sabotage and crime. We make a clear distinction between those perpetrating such crimes and other Muslims. I will give you a good example. I personally requested the release from prison of a man, a strict Muslim, whose son is a member of that terrorist group, the Muslim Brotherhood. This man, who was released after 2 years in detention, came to me and said: I have no obligation to you whatsoever, but rest assured that if I know the whereabouts of my son, I will hand him over to the police; then you can do what you like with him."

This was what Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm told AL-MUSTAQBAL last Monday night in reply to a number of questions on the recent incidents in Syria and their objectives, the government's role in tackling what was termed "the U.S.-Zionist onslaught against Syria, in collaboration with the Camp David partners," and what President al-Asad has said before and is now saying about the Muslim Brotherhood.

The Syrian prime minister continued: This man returned to me 3 days later accompanied by over 50 persons, all of whom denounced the acts of murder and terrorism. I did not ask him to do that. This incident took place before President al-Asad's speech. There are mistakes in every revolution. We also made mistakes. In some cases, we were induced into committing such mistakes by certain conspiratorial parties, other than the Muslim Brotherhood. For example, the criticism of the regime increased when the new government began certain reforms; everyone knows that the government has been rectifying past mistakes from its first day in power. Yet those conspiratorial parties continued to criticize the government and its reforms. Therefore, the strict Muslims have nothing to do with this attack. What used to be said in the past about the existence of a sectarian movement has been disproved. These acts have a political rather than a religious motivation.

[Question] What do you mean by political motivation?

[Answer] There is both external and internal political motivation. Syria is in the forefront of the Arab countries that reject the Camp David agreement. This does not please As-Sadat and Israel, or the United States, which encouraged them to sign the Camp David agreement. So it is natural for the White House, Israel and the As-Sadat regime to fight us and to try to overthrow our regime. The Americans say that they have no designs on Syria. Our reply is this: The United States did not initiate the Camp David plan in order to apply it only to Egypt. The United States also wants to involve Syria and Jordan and to finish the whole subject. But the United States does not want to understand that Camp David would not work, even if the Syrian Government were changed 50 times. If our government went along with the Camp David plan, it would be overthrown by the Syrian people.

[Question] But at the same time, Syria does not reject a solution through negotiation?

[Answer] Syria has agreed to negotiation through the United Nations and the Security Council and in accordance with the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the Security Council. One of the main principles of the UN Charter acknowledges human rights and the right of self-determination for all peoples. Let the Palestinian people return to their land and let them ask them what they want. But Israel will not agree to that. Israel wants to conduct negotiations similar to those it conducted with As-Sadat, so as to take everything and give nothing.

What I am tryaing to say is that to Syria, the Palestine question is not just the issue of a fraternal people but a Syrian issue. When I say Syria, I mean the Syrian people. This is another thing that the United States does not seem to understand. When I say that the crisis in Syria is political, I mean that there is a front inside the country that is hostile to our foreign policy. They want to overthrow the regime in Syria. Of course, when we Ba'thists came to power we expelled certain political factions that were dominating the country. These people now believe that their chance to restore their glories and fulfill their dreams has come. There are also a number of old politicians who lived on the finances of certain Arab quarters, which in turn have special friendships with the United States.

We have discovered weapons with Israeli markings. These weapons are still in our possession. This is the first time that we declare this openly. This was what President al-Asad meant when he said: "We have proof that the murderers are committing their crimes with Israeli weapons and are cooperating with Israel."

[Question] Do you also have evidence of the involvement of U.S. intelligence, or are they mere statements?

[Answer] No, they are not mere statements. We have evidence. The leaders of the opposing political movement work in Israel and cooperate with it. We have evidence that they not only cooperate with U.S. intelligence, but are its direct agents. I am saying that some old politicians, who are trying to regain their glories, are connected to U.S. intelligence. We are not only sure of this but we also have proof, which shall be published at the proper time. Let me tell you that the proper time is rapidly approaching.

[Question] Has the matter reached the extent of forming armed militias? This has led some to believe that the regime is indeed in danger and needs militias.

[Answer] We should distinguish between the two subjects on the militia issue. The government could have destroyed its enemies without recourse to militias. However, we believe only in the people. We come from this people and believe that the people should resist their enemies. When we were in the opposition, we clashed with the rightist parties. They were unarmed and so were we. However, they are armed today and are using these arms. Therefore, our party also should arm itself. The people are either with us in liquidating their enemies without the army's help, or they are not with us. These arms will then be used against us. However, we armed the workers, peasants, students, intellectuals and all the people because we believe that they support us. They are not all party members. The party members who have been armed are a minority but they come from classes of the people who believe in what we work for. These groups asked to be armed in order to protect their establishments, factories and institutions. They were not armed in order to attack anybody but to defend the establishments and factories that the saboteurs tried to burn down.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, did you actually give them arms or just possible access to arms? What I would like to ask is: Do they take their arms to their homes? If so, you must have great confidence in them.

[Answer] Yes, every citizen has arms that he takes home. I told you that we gave them arms because we are certain that the people are with us. Naturally, however, we also have a political objective. We want to tell our enemies: Arms are in the hands of the people. If they are against us, they will overthrow us. We are giving the people the opportunity to prove, with arms in their hands, if they are with the state or against it.

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B: CARTER MOVED SHAH FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES

LD291513 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 25 Mar 80 p 1 LD

[Bin Yakhlef article: "Washington's 'Humanitarianism'"]

[Excerpts] The Israelis have stated that As-Sadat has proved his courage twice: when he visited Jerusalem and spoke to the Knesset and when he hosted the fugitive shah. The Americans, however, emphasized that Egypt's ruler has relieved them of "a worrisome thorn in the side of the White House." But which of the qualities bestowed on the head of the Cairo regime are shared by the Americans, who smuggled out the shah who was about to fall in the grip of the Iranian people?

The U.S. administration made the decision to smuggle out Reza Pahlavi not because it was devoted to him or because it was concerned about his health but for several considerations of which we shall mention only two:

The "friends" of the United States were indignant when they saw the United States paralyzed and unable to act with regard to the revolutionary tide which swept its influence from vital strategic positions such as Iran, Afghanistan, Ethiopia and other areas.

The second consideration is directly related to the current race for the White House--that is, the Presidential election campaign which is governed by controls that decide the candidate's success of failure. It is known that the capitalists fund the campaign and control a large section of American public opinion by the influence they have in the labor unions. These circles, particularly Rockefeller, have strong ties with the shah, who smuggled out billions of dollars. These circles threatened that if Carter abandoned Reza Pahlavi, his path to the White House would be strewn with thorns. Since the American President was facing collapse on several fronts which threatened to support him, particularly the Zionist lobby in the wake of the recent "mistaken" American vote at the Security Council, he preferred to submit to the wish of those who are actually ruling the United States. Therefore, he hastened to move the shah to Cairo, whose previous insistence on hosting the deposed emperor he had rejected so that As-Sadat would not be exposed to dangers that could undermine the Camp David treaty and cause Carter to lose the only gain he has been bragging of since he became President.

Amid these practices which reveal the nature of U.S. policy, we see in Washington persons who dare to speak about "international legality" under whose cover the White House rulers continue to protect a butcher whose crimes have been verified by the UN fact-finding commission through the thousands of disfigured and disabled persons who demonstrated before it, in addition to the tens of thousands who were killed. In the name of this legality Washington refuses to atone for its past in Iran. By its behavior Washington is actually doing the rest of the peoples a service so that they will know how to differentiate between friend and enemy.

As for Egypt's ruler, let him take as much pride as he likes in the praise bestowed upon him by the rulers of Tel Aviv and Washington. His fate will not be better than that of his guest, especially since he has increased Egypt's isolation on the Arab and Islamic level and defied the feelings of the Egyptian people who have always been a support for peoples struggling for liberation. Let the shah go wherever he likes. He will finally end up in the grip of popular justice which is merciless and from which the Americans cannot save him forever.

LIBYA

SYRIA'S KHADDAM ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI, MAKES STATEMENT

JN291809 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Tripoli--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Tripoli before noon today. He was received at the airport by Dr 'Ali at-Turayki, Libyan foreign secretary; Ambassador 'Ali Hasan, head of the Syrian relations office in Tripoli; and the Syrian relations office members. In a statement to the SANA correspondent in Tripoli, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said: The aim of our visit of Libya is to exchange viewpoints with our Libyan brothers on all issues that concern us. He added: I am carrying a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to his brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the Arab situation and the circumstances facing the Arab nation.

A closed meeting was held between 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Dr 'Ali at-Turayki at Tripoli airport in the presence of Mohamed El Mokhtar, Mauritanian foreign affairs and cooperation minister.

The SANA correspondent has learned that during the meeting, viewpoints were exchanged between the conferees on the current Arab situation. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, 'Ali at-Turayki and Mohamed El Mokhtar, accompanied by the Libyan liaison secretary and the head of the Syrian relations office in Banghazi, then took a special Libyan plane to meet with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Khaddam is scheduled to leave Banghazi for home later today after delivering President Al-Asad's message to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

Meeting with Al-Qadhdhafi

LD300916 Tripoli JANA in English 0806 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Banghazi, March 30, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The revolution's leader, Colonel Muiammar al-Qadhdhafi yesterday evening received the Syrian deputy premier and foreign minister, Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The meeting was also attended by the liaison and foreign secretaries. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also met with the Mauritanian foreign minister.

IRAN'S KHALKHALI SPEAKS AT RALLY IN TRIPOLI

LD282115 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] In his speech this evening at the popular rally at the Green Square in Tripoli, Ayatollah Khalkhali warmly saluted the leader of the great Fatah revolution and his role in supporting the causes of freedom and Islam in the world, stressing the cohesion of the two Muslim revolutions in Libya and Iran.

The two revolutions he added, seek the defeat of colonialism and of the enemies of Islam. We possess the strength of faith and adherence to the Koran. In his speech Ayatollah Khalkhali stressed: We are determined to liberate every inch of the homeland of Islam from the enemy who is supported by the United States which regards this enemy as being a military base for itself. We, he said, will destroy this base with all our capabilities and potentials.

Addressing the masses at the celebrations, he said: You have driven out the English from your homeland, the homeland of the Muslims. We have driven out from our homeland the Zionists and the CIA. We dug graves for them in Iran with all our potentials which were not weapons or rifles but faith and the Koran and Islam. Both Libyans and Iranians, he pointed out, have managed to drive out the colonialists and to confiscate their assets by faith.

In his speech Ayatollah Khalkhali attacked the defeated Egyptian president, the terrorist Begin and U.S. President Carter. Carter, he said, claims humanity, but he does not respect humanity. As-Sadat is protecting the thief, murderer and executioner who is known as the shah. The defeated president is divorced from Islam and has nothing to do with it. Concluding, he stressed that despite all the American-Zionist-Pharaonic alliance intrigues, we are resolved to liberate Palestine.

KHALKHALI: LIBYA HAD NO PART IN IMAM'S DISAPPEARANCE

LD301948 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli--Leader of the Iranian Revolution Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali has stressed that Musa as-Sadr was a victim of an imperialist and Zionist plot, as were national leader Kamal Jumblatt, struggler Mahdi Bin Barakah, Aldo Moro and Toni Franjiyah.

He said at a press conference here this evening that Libya had nothing to do or had no fault in the disappearance of the Shi'a Imam Musa as-Sadr. Had the Libyans wanted to assassinate the imam, they could have done that in Beirut, in the south of Lebanon or at his home. Khalkhali pointed out that world colonialism and Zionism and the anti-Muslim forces were trying to divide the Muslims through fabrications.

TUNISIA

PLO'S ABU MAZIN ARRIVES IN TUNIS 27 MAR

LD281550 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tunis--Abu Mazin, members of the PLO Central Committee, arrived yesterday afternoon in Tunis. Abu Mazin is to brief Tunisian officials on the latest developments in the Arab arena, specifically the success achieved by the Palestinian revolution and its aspirations for the future.

Meeting with Prime Minister's Aide

LD281552 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Mohamed Sayah, party director and minister-delegate attached to the prime minister, received Abu Mazin, member of the PLO Central Committee, at party house in Al-Qasabah this morning. Abu Mazin was accompanied by Abu Labib, member of the PLO Central Committee, and Hasan Bal'awi, PLO permanent representative in Tunisia.

Following the meeting Abu Mazin made a statement in which he mentioned that he discussed with Mohamed Sayah present Arab conditions, specifically developments in the Palestinian question and the problems of the Palestinian people. The two sides also reviewed the achievements of the Palestinian revolution in the international and Arab spheres, and future expectations regarding the plans put to the Palestinian people.

AUTONOMY DELEGATION RETURNS TO ISRAEL; BURG MAKES STATEMENT

Progress on Talks

TA281236 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 28 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The autonomy delegation headed by Dr Yosef Burg returned from Alexandria a few minutes ago. Our correspondent Dan Eshel is at Ben-Gurion Airport.

[Eshel] We also heard from the leader of the Israeli delegation that attention would soon be diverted to the summit in Washington. As for Alexandria, what the head of the Israeli team, Dr Yosef Burg, termed as progress was described as follows:

[Begin Burg recording] One thing, there will be a steering committee comprising one Israeli representative, one Egyptian representative and one U.S. representative which on a permanent basis--I would say, on almost a daily basis, but [word indistinct]--will have to register the progress made and the areas in which no progress has been made in order to accelerate them. The second thing is that we have established the Committee for Legal Matters [last two words in English] which--as we said in Herzliyya at the time--will be directed by ministers: on our side, by Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir and on the Egyptian side by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali. We decided to establish a committee which will examine the economic issues. Apparently, the Egyptian side will be represented at the committee by a deputy minister, at least. We will decide on the people in the next few days. On our side, I will submit some proposals to my fellow members. [end recording]

[Eshel] Later on, Dr Burg was asked the extent of progress made on substantial matters, as well as procedural issues.

[Begin Burg recording] I do not think that it is possible to make progress on practical and substantial issues without developing a method of advancement. We decided on a senior level on the establishment of a Committee on Legal Matters [last two words in English]. That means that we are not refraining from or eluding examination, but are getting to it. Some of the substantial matters which you would like to hear before the beginning of the Sabbath refer to political decisions which have to be made at senior governmental levels. These decisions should be prepared in a logical manner, and as far as Washington is concerned--I would say, in a logistical manner. [end recording]

[Eshel] We heard similar replies on substantial matters from Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir--who attended the autonomy discussions for the first time. Dan Eshel at Ben-Gurion Airport is now returning to the studio.

Further Details on News Conference

TA281237 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 28 Mar 80 TA

[Excerpt] [Begin recording] [Burg] I can also add that, not in a formal way, especially Mr Shamir and I had a very deep, deep, penetrating discussion of security matters with Prime Minister Dr Khalil and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Khalil and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Khalil--[correcing himself] Ghali, and Mr Linowitz.

I would like to add that the special negotiator, Special Ambassador Sol Linowtiz, on behalf of the President of the United States, accepted my invitation and he came to a special meeting at the beginning of the afternoon with our delegation, gave us his impressions, his reports, his ideas. We put forward questions, had a little discussion, and I believe it was helpful because without personal knowledge and personal relationships, sometimes the objective problems are too great.

[Correspondent David Essing] Burg categorically denies reports that Linowitz reprimanded the Israeli delegation, telling them that they should "get down to business." For Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, this was his first autonomy negotiating working session. He called it a good opportunity to meet Egypt's negotiators face to face. The talks had given him room for thought.

Shamir also was very guarded when asked about whether the autonomy negotiations could meet the May 26th goal; all he was ready to say was that he hoped so. This is David Essing at Ben-Gurion Airport. [end recording]

BEGIN INITIATING NEW SETTLEMENT BILL

TA301606 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 30 Mar 80 TA

[Text] A new settlement law bill is being initiated by the prime minister, and the first details are reported by Yosi 'Abadi:

Last week and today the prime minister held a number of consultations regarding the legal status of Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria. The possibilities for solving the legal status of the settlements were examined during the consultations. The possibility regarded today as most appropriate for solving the problem is a draft of a law that is being initiated by the prime minister. This is the expected formulation of the bill: a Jew has the right to settle in Eretz Yisra'el; the sites of the settlements are determined by the government; this law does not detract from any other jurisdiction according to any law; the law becomes valid [retroactively] on 27 July 1967. In other words, this bill stipulates that the government is entitled to pick any site in Eretz Yisra'el as a settlement site, and its decision will give the establishment of every settlement a legal and official seal.

However, the bill contradicts the legal opinion submitted to the prime minister by the government legal adviser. In his preamble to the opinion, legal advisor Professor Zamir says: I am aware of the difficult political problem involved in this issue. I weighed the question painstakingly, held many consultations and thoroughly examined the possible applications of the law in this context. I am sorry to say that I reached the conclusion that the existing legal tools are inappropriate for a good solution of this political problem and the issues have been explained in the opinion. Signed: Prof Yitzhaq Zamir.

In the opinion proper, Professor Zamir raises the possibility of applying to Judaea and Samaria the Israeli law regarding purchases for a public purpose. The legal adviser says, inter alia, it is not customary in Israel or in other countries to create a law that applies to lands outside the borders of the country. In Zamir's view, such legislation raises a number of questions, conformity to international law and the contention that enforcement of such a law amounts to annexation, thus precipitating criticism of the law by the High Court of Justice as well as the possible clash with other laws that apply in the region.

However, the prime minister proposes to legislate a special law in favor of the settlements, and this possibility is being examined in ministerial consultations. The prime minister's office says that for the time being no final proposal has been crystalized on this subject, but the office does not deny that there are already a number of proposals and that discussions are continuing.

AFGHANISTAN

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL: 'ARAFAT 'INTENDS TO MEDIATE' CRISIS

JN311026 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 31 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Beirut, 31 March--A senior Afghan official has revealed that PLO Executive Committee chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, intends to mediate in order to arrive at a peaceful solution to the Afghan crisis. The newspaper AS-SAFIR cites General 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Revolutionary Council and of the Central Committee of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, as saying that his country "hopes that 'Arafat's mission will succeed." He added that Afghanistan considers 'Arafat's mediation between Afghanistan and those countries "that interfere in its domestic affairs as a noble mission, particularly since this mediation takes into account the Afghan revolution's situation."

KABUL RADIO DENIES AFP REPORT ON 28 MARCH UNREST

GF301831 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Mar 80 GF

[Text] Western information media are continuing their policy of spreading lies. For instance, AFP, citing its correspondent in Peshawar--where anti-Afghan Government counterrevolutionaries are being trained--reported that disturbances occurred in Kabul and Qandahar on 28 March. The falseness of the AFP correspondent's report has been proven by the fact that the French newspaper LE MATIN, which published the report, was compelled to state in a memorandum that the report is untrue.

In responding to a question from a BAKHTAR correspondent, Afghan security officials have denied this report, calling it an absolute lie [word indistinct] always by the enemies of Afghanistan. The noble masses of Kabul and Qandahar, who have themselves witnessed the calm and security in these two cities, are aware of the imperialist (?media's) fabrications and deception. The heroic people of Afghanistan are carrying on their productive work and have not been deceived by the cock-and-bull stories, [word indistinct] and lies that have been concocted by their well-known enemies.

REVOLUTIONARIES CLAIM SUCCESS FOLLOWING MILITARY INITIATIVES

Release of Government Prisoners

TA271617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 27 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The Afghan rebels claim they have raided a government prison in the district of [Khunduz] and released 1,320 prisoners. They claim that some of the released prisoners were going to be executed. The rebels have also reported that they attacked a military airfield in the suburbs of the city of [Khunduz] as well as some government buildings.

Attack on Army Units

TA280605 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Mar 80 TA

[Text] A unit of the Afghan Army defected to the rebels recently and was immediately attacked by the Soviets, according to reports reaching New Delhi. The 360 soldiers switched sides 4 days after receiving marching orders from Kabul.

Karachi Reports Rebel Successes

BK301738 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 30 Mar 80 BK

[Text] According to latest reports the freedom fighters have got control of Darrah-i-suf and Ruy Doab districts in Samangan Province of Afghanistan after killing 75 troops including 15 officers and capturing the entire stock of arms and ammunition including antiaircraft guns. They also attacked and destroyed a hydropower electric station last Friday.

Agency reports say that in Helmand Province freedom fighters captured a district after killing all the Afghan troops, including their commander and the police chief of the district.

In Farah Province, the freedom fighters attacked and destroyed a Soviet radar post at Delaram after killing all the guards and captured a big quantity of arms and ammunition.

In Jalalabad area, the freedom fighters attacked Soviet and Afghan troops in (Vadhapur) last Thursday night and killed 15 troops including 5 officers. They blew up a lorry carrying Soviet troops on the highway near Jalalabad and killed all the occupants on the spot. They also killed three Afghan lashkars and wounded many in (Cesh) at (Karvey). In Takhar Province fierce fighting has been reported between freedom fighters and Soviet and Afghan troops along the Kabul and Mazar-e Sharif road and freedom fighters were reported to be only 2 kms away from the provincial headquarters of Taloqan.

Killing of USSR, Afghan Troops

JN290959 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 29 Mar 80 JN

[Text] A spokesman for the Islamic Afghan Party has said that the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries succeeded in killing 200 Soviet and government soldiers during an attack the joint Soviet-government forces launched against the revolutionaries' positions in the (Madakhar) area, located near the Pakistani borders. The attackers used tanks and helicopters equipped with guns.

The spokesman added that the revolutionaries destroyed two enemy tanks during these fierce clashes and forced the Soviet and government forces to withdraw, after inflicting heavy losses upon them. The revolutionaries' casualties were five dead.

The spokesman also said that on 25 March, the revolutionaries succeeded in shooting down a Soviet helicopter, which was transporting soldiers to Konarha Province.

The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries said that the Soviets had sent new reinforcements to an airbase near Qandahar. The revolutionaries have also occupied the (Karha) area, near Laghman Province close to Kabul, in the wake of fierce fighting with Soviet and government soldiers.

KABUL COMMENTARY ASSAILS CRITICS OF SOVIET PRESENCE

JN282102 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Mar 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary: "Our Sharp and Powerful Weapons"]

[Text] In order to further its policy of looting and rampage, killing the masses without mercy and strengthening its positions in the sensitive and strategic regions, the United States has employed every possible means at its disposal.

For instance, when the free Afghan people removed for the first time in the history of the region the shackles of British colonialism and, due to the influence of the greatest proletarian revolution in the Soviet Union, wiped out the remnants of the ill-fated British imperialism and blocked all the roads for the reentry of the imperialist hegemony, the two faced U.S. monster (placed) Nadir on the [word indistinct] throne so as to regain its positions. [words indistinct] over half a century, Nadir and his family mutilated our people and turned our country into ruins despite the fact that Afghanistan had won its independence before many countries of the world. There would have been great opportunities to reconstruct the country but for the Nadir family.

Following the Sawr Revolution and particularly after the new stage in the revolution, the last links of the imperialist-oriented fascism fell with Amin and his gang. Imperialism now wants to turn the clock backward using rusty old weapons and all the reactionary and brazen means at its disposal. The imperialists are unaware that our people have experienced these machinations and are rallying around their party, the Afghan People's Democratic Party, which is in the forefront of the struggle against imperialism and tyranny. The party will organize and mobilize their resources and will achieve their aspirations. The people have suffered tyranny and injustice and the party will realize their hopes.

Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Afghan People's Democratic Party Central Committee, head of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, said in his speech on New Year's Day: The realization of the comprehensive national front for the fatherland which will bring together the national democratic and progress-loving elements in the country will be the sharpest and most powerful political weapon to create a new Afghanistan which will march forward and achieve more integration and [word indistinct].

It is readily understood that reaction and imperialism will not be able to stand in the face of this weapon. Therefore, as they daily face ignominious defeats at the hands of our party and people, they spread evil and mean lies showing only that this bloodthirsty monster is weakening and retreating. They want to tarnish the sincere and brotherly Soviet assistance which is based on neighborliness. They want to open a door for their shameful past in our country and therefore want to harm the revolutionary, peace-loving and justice-loving stand of the Soviet Union. They want to tarnish the image of the Soviet Union, which is the leading revolutionary and anti-imperialist movement in the world.

Right thinking persons, regardless of their nationality, know the real reasons for the presence of the limited number of Soviet military units in Afghanistan. They also know the aims of U.S. imperialiam and the aims of its agents and accomplices in the crime. They know the true intentions behind the hue and cry raised by the U.S. imperialists and their agents. A U.S. professor from New York University, writing in the magazine [word indistinct], said that the request made by the Afghan Government to the Soviet Government for military aid does not contravene international law. The question of occupation does not arise and nobody has any legal evidence to consider this a threat to world peace, the professor added. He said that the U.S. allegations are aimed at applying the Carter [word indistinct] doctrine.

KABUL PRAISES TASS 'GIFT' TO BAKHTAR

GF291839 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Mar 80 GF

[Unattributed commentary: "The Transmission of News to the Outside World Is Another Sign of Friendship"]

[Excerpts] The expansion of the means of mutual understanding and media communications among the peoples of the world has turned the world of today into one family. More so than at any time in the past, events and developments that occur in any part of the world affect other sections of this large human family.

Regrettably, in the past we did not possess the means of making our voice heard in the world. Only a fraction of our achievements were broadcast over the radios, and then only in countries where these stations were heard. Thus, only a limited number of the world's people had any knowledge of the major developments that occurred in Afghanistan as a result of the Great Sawr Revolution, and especially its new phase.

However, the imperialist countries, led by the United States and the information media linked to it--which have large resources to disseminate their venomous ideas--have spread false and wide-scale propaganda to distort, in the minds of the peoples of the world, the gains of the Sawr Revolution and misrepresent the success achieved by our people after 27 December 1979.

The operation of automatic transmitters and receivers between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's news agency, BAKHTAR, and the Soviet news agency TASS--and this is the first time in Afghanistan's history that our domestic news is being transmitted to the world through BAKHTAR--is a valuable step in the information field during the new phase of the Great Sawr Revolution. This automatic system, which is a gift from TASS to BAKHTAR, is another prominent manifestation of the sincere and fraternal aid to our people. Domestic news and developments will be transmitted to more than 80 countries through this system.

We are confident that in addition to strengthening the ties of friendship and good neighborliness between the Afghan and Soviet peoples, the expansion in the transmission of news and the communication link between BAKHTAR and TASS will also improve the shining image of the Sawr Revolution's new phase at the international level so the world will become more aware of the successful events that are currently taking place in revolutionary Afghanistan and of the ill-fated aims of greedy U.S. imperialism and its Chinese, Pakistani and Egyptian allies.

30 REFUGEE FAMILIES RETURN TO GHOWR PROVINCE

GF301754 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Mar 80 GF

[Text] In light of the full confidence our noble masses have in their revolutionary government, some 30 families from the village of Mangow, in the district of Chaghcharan, the capital of Ghowr Province, who had fled their homes as a result of the tyranny of Hafizollah Amin and his traitorous gang, returned to their homes yesterday in an atmosphere of joy and happiness. Upon returning, they expressed, in a revolutionary spirit, their solidarity with and support for the revolutionary Afghan Government. They have resumed their normal activities.

72 ADDITIONAL DETAINEES RELEASED IN KABUL 27 MAR

JN281915 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Seventy-two detainees who were arrested in Kabul following the 21 and 22 February incidents were released yesterday. Two members of the committee for the investigation in the affairs of prisoners spoke during the release process and condemned the treasonous acts [words indistinct] and the interference of U.S. imperialists, the Pakistani militarists, Egypt and Israel in the affairs of Afghanistan.

The speakers said that the Afghan Government has issued orders [words indistinct] on the 21 and 22 incidents in the city of Kabul. This was out of the revolutionary government's love for the people. You have been released following the investigation of your problems by this committee. You must begin work to reconstruct the country.

A number of the released persons expressed their appreciation for the Afghan Government's interest in their cases. They promised to work for the elimination of the enemies of the country and the enemies of the Great Sawr Revolution.

A security department source said that with this, the number of released prisoners has reached 1,459 persons.

POLICE CHIEF EXHORTS CADETS TO DEFEND COUNTRY

GF301902 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Mar 80 GF

[Text] During a meeting at the police academy yesterday, certificates of [word indistinct] were issued to graduates of (?traffic), security and frontier studies by ('Abdol Kamal Azhar), commander in chief of security forces.

In a speech he delivered at the meeting, the security forces commander in chief said: With the triumph of the Great Sawr Revolution, U.S. imperialists and Chinese hegemonists, with the cooperation of the forces [words indistinct] reactionaries and international imperialism, hatched conspiracies against the Afghan people. They destroyed bridges, roads, schools, public installations, [words indistinct]. They killed the old and the young and disturbed the people's [word indistinct]. You police cadets must struggle and strive to maintain security in your country until the last moments of your lives.

You are not alone in assuming your responsibilities throughout the country. Peasants, professionals and other toilers are carrying arms and are supporting you in defending bridges, roads, buildings, villages and rural areas.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports: Two graduates delivered speeches on behalf of the other graduates. They pledged to dedicate themselves to insuring the security of the country and its people.

KARMAL CHAIRS CABINET MEETING ON EDUCATION 29 MAR

LD302320 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Under the chairmanship of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], the Council of Ministers met last night between 1630 and 2000 at the Revolutionary Council headquarters.

At yesterday's Cabinet meeting, the law on consumer goods taxes, prepared by the Justice Ministry, was approved and was submitted to the Revolutionary Council Presidium for the completion of its final legal stages.

Regulations for the organization of budget accounts of the Bank of Afghanistan were also approved in accordance with the Justice Ministry's proposal, and instructions were given to the effect that the said regulations be published in the official gazette.

The Cabinet meeting reduced the kindergarten membership fee from 2,500 to 1,500 afghanis in accordance with separate proposals by the Finance Ministry and steps taken by the Education Ministry.

In addition, it was decided that the Ministry of Mines and Industry prepare a correct account of all reserves of precious stones and submit it to the Finance Ministry. Representatives of the finance, mines and industry, and commerce ministries are subsequently to take part when precious stones are sold.

On the basis of the Commerce Ministry proposal the Council of Ministers decided that the Finance Ministry transfer 1 billion afghanis from the total subsidy for 1980-81 in order to open the letter of credit for oil for the appropriate account of the government monopoly in the Bank of Afghanistan, and that steps be taken to purchase the necessary foreign currency.

Instructions were also given to the effect that two stores constructed in accordance with separate contracts by the construction department and housing cooperative for the preparation and storage of cooperative material be handed over to the government officials' cooperative free of charge.

On the basis of a proposal by the Communications Ministry the Council of Ministers decided that equipment for development projects be used in provincial communication links.

On the basis of a proposal by the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform the Council of Ministers decided that land allocated for the establishment of farms be handed over free of charge to the Department of State Farms at the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform for the establishment of mechanized state farms.

In accordance with a proposal of the Education Ministry it was decided the first DRA teachers' congress be held 10-12 May 1980 with the participation of 400 representatives in Kabul. It was also decided to use 1.97 million afghanis from the kindergarten account for the kindergarten construction project in Khayr Khana and Rahman Mina.

In accordance with a proposal of the Ministry of Mines and Industry, approval was granted for the purchase of (?Merino) and New Zealand wool to supply the needs of the Qandahar wool textile enterprise on the basis of the orders of the purchase regulations of the commercial institutions of the Commerce Ministry and based on the commercial commission's decision.

In accordance with separate proposals of the ministries of public health, education and mines and industry, exemption from customs duty was granted for equipment and material needed for the blood bank. Advisers in the construction unit of the Education Ministry and the medical and coal mines advisers in the north of the country were also (?granted exemption from tax).

On the basis of the DRA Government's revolutionary and progressive policy in the sector of education and the fundamental change in the education system, which plays a valuable role in the life of the country's future generation, the Council of Ministers made some very important decisions at its meeting last night chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister.

At this meeting the Council of Ministers approved after consideration the Education Ministry's proposal concerning the following points:

1. The following forms of general education schools be adopted throughout the country: primary schools, partial middle schools, full middle schools and religious schools. The primary schools will have 4 grades, partial middle schools 8 grades, full middle schools 10 grades; and the activities of religious schools will continue in accordance with previous laws.

2. The realization of compulsory universal primary education has been undertaken, beginning in the 1980-81 academic year. This enterprise is to be (?pursued) in the cities until the 1985-86 academic year, and in villages until the 1986-87 academic year.

3. The Education Ministry is also obliged to prepare in an orderly manner the curriculum for all general education schools and institutions for the 1980-81 academic year and submit it to the DRA Council of Ministers for approval. The Education Ministry is also obliged to prepare all the textbooks for students and the teachers' guides for educational requirements.

4. The Education Ministry is obliged to render assistance necessary for the development of religious schools.

5. The Education Ministry is obliged to prepare a bill on middle schooling by 1 June 1980 and submit it to the DRA Council of Ministers for approval.

6. Since the future development of education and training depends most of all on the teachers' scientific and professional experience and political and cultural outlook, the Council of Ministers draws the attention of responsible local officials to the need to provide good living and working conditions for teachers in order to promote fruitful work and also to promote their standards of knowledge. In order to develop the teachers' knowledge in the sphere of education in a systematic manner the Education Ministry is obliged to formulate proposals for the establishment of a central education institute in Kabul by 21 April 1980.

7. In order to make effective the work on drafting and completing programs, plans and textbooks, the Education Ministry is obliged to prepare its proposals on the establishment of an educational research institute in Kabul by 1 May 1980. Prominent and experienced scholars, teachers and educationalists should be attracted to the educational research institute.

8. The Education Ministry is to supervise the plan for the construction of new schools and the consolidation of the material and educational foundation of schools and strictly to prevent disorder and chaos and to pay serious attention to the reasonable economy and maintenance of school equipment.

9. The current production of educational equipment and the supplies of such equipment to schools are in need of improvement. For this reason the Education Ministry is instructed to submit proposals and observations to the Council of Ministers within 6 months on the production of audiovisual equipment, laboratory material, workshops and school gymnasiums and to encourage the establishment and development of special factories.

10. The Education Ministry and local authorities are responsible for the implementation of compulsory primary education for children.

11. In order to promote effective guidance of the country's educational system the Education Ministry is instructed to prepare a plan for the renewal of the organization and a bill for the reorganization of the ministry and to submit them to the Council of Ministers for approval.

12. In cooperation with the Ministry of Information and Culture the Education Ministry is to prepare and broadcast radio and television programs on educational issues for state schools and for parents on bringing up children.

FRENCH JOURNALIST INTERVIEWS EDUCATION MINISTER, SECURITY CHIEF

BK310251 Hong Kong AFP in English 0232 GMT 31 Mar 80 BK

[Excerpt] Kabul, 31 Mar (AFP)--Afghans called on the Soviet Union for help because they did not want to become the Chileans of Asia, Afghan Education Minister Anahita Ratebzad said Sunday [30 March] in an interview with a French regional newspaper reporter.

Mrs. Ratebzad, a communist member of the first Afghan parliament in 1964 and now a leading revolutionary figure, told LA DEPECHE DU MIDI that the party's unity is of prime importance for the defence of the country. She agreed that some mistakes had probably been made in the countryside, but said the former leader Hafizollah Amin was most to blame, as he "destroyed and broke up everything, the party, the government, the people. It will take some time to mend the pieces", she said.

Mrs. Ratebzad said the Afghan Government was willing to engage in honest relations with the United States if it stopped interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

The reporter, Rene Mauries, also met with General Samad Azher, head of the Afghan security forces, who said there were two types of rebellions in the country. He said there was a "conscious and determined" rebellion led by counterrevolutionaries such as any revolution will produce. These ranged from the "Muslim Brotherhood" on the right to the leftwing Maoists.

The second rebellion is one stemming from the "blind and savage" repression exercized by former ruler Amin. The "determined" rebellion is now making political mileage out of this second "hardship" revolt, General Azher said.

The rebellion is backed ideologically, financially and materially by "imperialism and its satellites", namely the United States, China, Britain, Pakistan, Egypt and Israel, the general said. "The ideological war has thus turned to a full-blooded war", he added.

Though he admitted that the presence of Soviet troops could provide the rebellion with an axe to grind, General Azher said that without the limited presence of the Soviet troops the country would be overrun by imperialists.

EDUCATION MINISTER RECEIVES VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR

GF301645 Kabul in Urdu to South Asia 1330 GMT 30 Mar 80 GF

[Text] Education Minister Anahita Ratebzad received Nguyen Sy Hoat, ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, in her office today. During the meeting the two sides signed a cultural agreement.

According to another report, the education minister also met with the chief of the UN development project in Afghanistan, [name indistinct]. During this meeting views were exchanged on the UNESCO training program in Afghanistan.

KABUL PRESENTS PROGRESS REPORT ON HOUSING COOPERATIVE

LD290531 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The cooperative for providing houses to needy people of the country has launched its work of procuring the 20 precent down payment from those who want to receive help (?and public property). The cooperative aims at building low-cost houses and living quarters for the workers of the country, as well as its program of work was officially (?approved) after the new phase of Sawr Revolution. [Sentence as heard]

The first phase of the project undertaken by the cooperative, designed by young Afghan engineers and architects, consists of 4,230 apartments in a Kabul district. These apartments are to meet all modern requirements of a housing system in a modern city, such as water, pipelines, sewerage systems, electricity, central heating, basic social services, facilities, mosques, centers for teaching, administration, cultural, athletic, (?financial) and recreational activities.

The apartments are to have some (?three to five) rooms each and to be built in three four or five stories. Work on the first phase of the project will begin during this Afghan year and is scheduled to be finished by the end of the first 5-year economic and social development plan of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

A source of the cooperative in an interview has said that in addition to this project the cooperative has undertaken another (?Cha Mena) residential project in the northern outskirts of the city of Kabul. Work on this project is to be completed in another 3 months.

Another project consists of building 50 apartments next to (?Cha Mena) which is to be allocated to Afghan artists as a mark of appreciation for their artistic services. This project, too, will be unaugurated this year.

The cooperative is also active in the provinces of the country. For instance, in Jalalabad, 145 km east of Kabul, it has undertaken a project for building residential quarters. That district, too, is called the (?Cha Mena).

FARMERS DAY CELEBRATION IS AGAIN POSTPONED

LD281702 Kabul Domestic Service in Kari 0330 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Following the previous announcement, concerning the celebration of Farmers Day, we informed the toiling farmers, esteemed guests of the participating offices and institutions and the citizens of Kabul that it was planned that the Farmers Day would be observed today, 28 March with a special celebration in the national sports stadium.

But owing to the adverse weather, rain and humidity which will cause discomfort to the spectators, and also due to the difficulties which were envisaged with respect to the transportation of the exhibition equipment and material inside the stadium, the celebration of this auspicious day is postponed until further notice.

INDIA

GANDHI INTERVIEWED ON NONALINED MOVEMENT, AFGHAN ISSUE

NC310916 Paris AFP in English 0901 GMT 31 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Beirut, March 31, (AFP)--The nonaligned movement has lost much of its power and initiative in influencing international issues, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said in an interview published here today. Mrs. Gandhi told the Beirut daily AS-SAFIR that it was not easy to re-establish unity in the nonaligned movement, which grouped different and difficult to control interests.

The prime minister ruled out the danger of a Mideast war in the near future explaining she believed that such events never coincided with United States Presidential elections. She noted, however, that her government maintained its full support of the Palestinian cause.

Turning to the Afghan issue, Mrs. Gandhi simply said that India was "hostile" to any interference in the affairs of another state, adding that though India had stable, friendly relations with Afghanistan, the Soviet Union was also a friendly nation.

ANALYSTS VIEW PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM

BK291609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Mar 80 BK

[Text] According to two analysts of the Institute of Defense Studies and Analysis in New Delhi, Pakistan had decided to make an atom bomb as early as 1972, 2 years before the Pokhran explosion by India. The two analysts say in their book "Nuclear Pakistan" the first nuclear test by Pakistan may come up late this year or early next year. The late Pakistan president, Mr Bhutto, adopted the path of uranium enrichment to make the nuclear bomb in 1972. A Pakistani metallurgist, Mr Abdul Kadir Khan, joined a Dutch plant which was working for a top secret enrichment process to obtain information on the technology in 1972. This, the analysts describe, as a covert operation to achieve the goal. Mr Bhutto had simultaneously started negotiations with France in 1973 to get a plutonium reprocessing plant as an alternative path to make the atom bomb.

INCIDENTS CONTINUE IN CALCUTTA OVER ASSAM ISSUE

BK291554 Hong Kong AFP in English 1511 GMT 29 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Calcutta, March 29 (AFP)--Police used teargas shells and batons to disperse a large crowd of Congress Party volunteers who attacked the Indian Airlines office in the city this afternoon to prevent sale of tickets for flights to neighbouring Assam. Police arrested 30 demonstrators as the Congress-backed economic blockade of Assam by West Bengalis continued for the sixth day. Several persons were reported injured when demonstrators threw stones and bottles at the airlines office and passing vehicles.

In north Bengal, close to the Assam border, Bengalis set fire to two trucks and removed rail lines to prevent goods from getting across the border.

Despite appeals for peace by the Marxist-led West Bengal Government, Bengalis in north Bengal took out processions to denounce the continuing agitation in Assam against non-Assamese settlers, the majority of them Bengali-speaking.

The 6-month-old agitation in Assam against the inclusion of "non-Assamese" in the electoral list has already shattered the state's economy and posed a serious law and order problem for the central government in the entire northeast region.

PAKISTAN

HAQ DISCUSSES EXPANSION OF FEDERAL CABINET, DETAINED POLITICIANS

BK291619 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Mar 80 BK

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that there is a need for expansion of the federal Cabinet and it will be done in stages. Talking to newsmen in Lahore prior to his departure for Rawalpindi this evening he said as a first stage provincial advisory councils will be set up out of which governors will set up their own cabinets. He also said that in the next stage the existing federal Cabinet would be expanded, and added that at least an advisory council at the federal level would be set up if we fail to make any further change.

Asked whether there was any possibility of setting up a political government in the country, the president said: This is our objective, and we want authority to be transferred to a political government.

Asked whether he was willing to set up a political government, the president said: Not yet.

Referring to his recent meetings with some politicians, the president said that he exchanged views with them on the current domestic and international situation.

Questioned as to whether some senior politicians are going to be released the president said that these politicians were not arrested for their political views, but were arrested for law and order reasons and their cases are under consideration in the courts. They have the full right to challenge the decisions and to follow legal procedures. If the law decides that their arrests were legal then their arrests will continue.

The president said despite the application of martial law in the country the supremacy of the civil law is maintained in Pakistan.

Cuban Minister's Visit, USSR Dialog

BK291731 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 Mar 80 BK

[Excerpts] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that the federal Cabinet requires to be expanded and this would take place in phases. He was talking to newsmen in Lahore this evening before his departure for Rawalpindi.

Asked if the Cuban foreign minister had brought any proposal about the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan the president said that the Cuban foreign minister had brought some proposals and we (?stated) our stand.

Pakistan, he emphasized, continues to abide by the resolutions of the emergency sessions of the Islamic foreign ministers conference. It was in this respect that they were prepared to continue their dialog and negotiations with anybody interested in bringing about peaceful conditions in this region. However, the fundamental thing in this respect is the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

About the visit of Sardar Swaran Singh to Pakistan, the president said what he has to offer and what he would say is not known, but we are looking to a good exchange of views. About any progress toward a dialog with the Soviet Union, the president said as stated by him a few days back, Pakistan's options are open.

The president said they have received nothing official as yet about Iran's proposal for a regional conference. Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq said the forthcoming regular conference of the Islamic foreign ministers in Islamabad [beginning 16 April] will discuss the progress on the resolutions passed during the emergency session of the conference and in that respect Afghanistan would come up for discussion.

Replying to a question, the president said the defense of the country was not only the sole responsibility of the armed forces but of the entire nation of 75 million and he hoped that if the occasion arose the entire nation would stand united on this issue.

The president said at the moment he was not in a position to give a specific date about the lifting of the censorship. He said he himself was a believer that the press should be free but with responsibility. The president said for the last 2 and 1/2 years we gave the press [words indistinct]. The censorship, he said, had been imposed not because they wanted to choke the press, but to keep some of the irresponsible journalists from creating confusion. He said he will not allow anybody to say anything against Islam and solidarity and ideology of Pakistan.

About Pakistan rejoining the Commonwealth the president said he would take the nation into confidence on the issue at the appropriate time.

The president said he has no immediate program to go abroad except his visit to China in May. There was a standing invitation to him from China, Iraq and some Gulf states.

The president said his government is encouraging Pakistanis to visit India and it is a good thing if the two neighboring countries improve their relations.

Additional Report on Minister's Visit

BK300629 Hong Kong AFP in English 0620 GMT 30 Mar 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 30 March (AFP)--Pakistan President General Mohammed Ziaul Haq has suggested to Cuban President Fidel Castro to summon a meeting of the nonaligned countries to work out a solution of the four-month old Afghan crisis the independent national newspaper HINDUSTAN TIMES said today.

The newspaper said that Gen. Zia conveyed his suggestion to Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli who met him in Islamabad this week and delivered a letter from Mr. Castro.

"Mr. Peoli had carried a letter from Mr. Castro to General Zia suggesting that Pakistan should recognize the Babrak Karmal government in Kabul as a first step towards normalizing its relations with Afghanistan," the newspaper said.

"Under the present circumstances, General Zia told Mr. Peoli that Pakistan was not in a position to upgrade its representation in Kabul, until Soviet troops had withdrawn from Afghanistan.... He (Zia) is said to have put forward a number of suggestions on how a climate could be created wherein normal relations between Kabul and Islamabad would become possible," HINDUSTAN TIMES said. "One of the suggestions put forward by Zia is that a meeting of the nonaligned countries should be convened to intervene in a situation in which independence of a nonaligned country (meaning Afghanistan) was involved," the newspaper said.

Views on Commonwealth Entry

London REUTER in English 2156 GMT 29 Mar 80 WA

[Text] Lahore, Pakistan, March 29, REUTER--Pakistan's military ruler, General Ziaul Haq, said today his country was willing to rejoin the Commonwealth, eight years after quitting the 42-nation group. He also hinted that Britain had approached Pakistan to suggest it rejoin. "Some initiative" was being taken by "some countries," General Zia told reporters.

Pakistan resigned from the Commonwealth, a cooperation and consultation organization linking Britain and its former colonies and territories, in 1972 after Britain recognized the breakaway state of East Pakistan, now Bangladesh.

The government-controlled English language Pakistan TIMES said on Thursday that Britain had told Pakistan it wanted it to rejoin. It said talks were likely next month.

General Zia said Pakistan would not mind rejoining provided it was an "honorable entry."

CABINET ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICES OF OUTGOING MINISTERS

BK310352 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 30 Mar 80 BK

[Excerpts] The federal Cabinet, which met in Rawalpindt today under the chairmanship of chief martial law administrator, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, reviewed at length the economic situation of the country as well as the external situation. The economic situation was discussed in the light of the brief presented by Finance Minister Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan and the external situation on a brief presented by adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi.

Two federal ministers, Lt Gen Faiz Ali Chishti and Lt Gen Jamal Syed Mian, today attended the last meeting of the Cabinet as ministers in Rawalpindi. Lt Gen Chishti leaves the Cabinet on his own request, which the president has accepted, and Lt Gen Jamal Syed Miam, who who has been promoted recently to his present rank, takes up the command of a corps tomorrow.

Lt Gen Chishti thanked the president for the consideration shown to him by his colleagues in the Cabinet and for the cooperation give to him in the discharge of his duties as a Cabinet minister. Lt Gen Jamal Syed Mian expressed his gratitude to the president for the guidance given to him and the confidence reposed in him during his tenure as a federal minister, and assured him of his loyalty and dedication to work. He also thanked his colleagues in the Cabinet.